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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/973,186	10/09/2001	Gregory Jantsch	13543-003001	4489
26161	7590	03/12/2007		EXAMINER
FISH & RICHARDSON PC				KIM, AHSHIK
P.O. BOX 1022				
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
				2876
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS		03/12/2007		PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/973,186	JANTSCH, GREGORY	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Ahshik Kim	2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12/14/06 (RCE).
- 2a)  This action is **FINAL**.                            2b)  This action is non-final.
- 3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4)  Claim(s) 25 and 35-37 is/are pending in the application.
  - 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5)  Claim(s) 25 is/are allowed.
- 6)  Claim(s) 35-37 is/are rejected.
- 7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10)  The drawing(s) filed on 09 October 2001 is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.
 

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All    b)  Some \* c)  None of:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/14/06.
- 4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in  
5 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is  
eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e)  
has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to  
37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on December 14, 2006 has been entered.

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### ***Amendments***

2. Receipt is acknowledged of the first and second amendment filed on December 14, 2006  
and December 18, 2006. Currently, claims 25 and 35-37 remain in the examination.

### ***Drawings***

15 3. This application is filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination  
purposes only. Formal drawings will be required in response to this Office Action or when the  
application is allowed.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

20 4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:  
The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the  
subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Re claim 35, it is understood that “the method does not assume that the bill is good to be dispensed” as further explained in Applicant’s remarks. If so, “determining the presence or absence of a flaw” is not performed on the subsequent bills after the first one? And are the bills are routed to the dispensing path? If determining step is done on every bill, and routing is changed based on the determination process, how is the method recited in claim 35 any different than a conventional bill processing/detecting method wherein a bill identified as a “double” or “not acceptable” collected in rejected bin and genuine bills being dispersed or collected? Only difference that Examiner observes is the use of word “default.”

In view of the above, it is unclear what is being claimed in claim 35. Applicant is respectfully suggested to at least 1) direct the Examiner to the specification where the method of claim 35 is further described 2) amend the claim so that the method being claimed is clarified.

15 6. Claims 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being dependent on rejected base claim.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the 20 basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Art Unit: 2876

8. Claims 35-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Butcheck (US 4,154,437, hereinafter "Butcheck").

Re claims 35-37, Butcheck discloses an apparatus and methods for currency dispenser (see abstract; col. 2, lines 23+) wherein bill thickness of each bill is gauged continuously while 5 moving through travel path (see abstract). Thicker bills (or bills allegedly identified as a double bill) are rejected by doubles detector mechanism which discharges "double bill" (col. 2, lines 5-8) and are collected in a reject container (col. 3, line 19).

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

10 9. Claim 25 is allowed.

10. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the claims are directed at a currency dispenser. The currency dispenser comprising all the component structures as described in claim 25 is neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited references.

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#### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to *Ahshik Kim* whose telephone number is (571)272-2393. The examiner can normally be reached between the hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday thru 20 Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee, can be reached on (571)272-2398. The fax phone number for this Group is (571)273-8300.

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Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [ahshik.kim@uspto.gov].

5 *All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and*

10 *Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.*

15 Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished application is available for Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have any questions or access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Ahshik Kim  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2876  
March 1, 2007